

# The Southeast News

VOLUME XII, NUMBER 6

APRIL 1964



**Pilgrim Congregational Church**

**Chattanooga, Tennessee**

**Rev. Arnold Slater, Pastor**

**SOUTHEAST CONVENTION ISSUE**

**Twelfth Annual Meeting**

**April 25-26, 1964**

## A Report By The President Of Southern Union College

Greetings from all of us at Southern Union College. The spring quarter has just begun and for the tenth consecutive quarter there has been an increase in enrollment over the same quarter last year. There are several new students enrolled for the first time.

The dean's list for the winter quarter was announced by Dr. A. R. Van Cleave and there were three students that had a straight "A" average or a quality point average of 3.00. Twenty-two students made 2.3 to 2.9 quality points or "A" and "B" honor roll.

Two new faculty members have been added to the staff. Rev. Charles Hazel is teaching sociology and Mrs. Louise Cox, a Southern Union Alumna, is teaching speech and world geography. The addition of these two persons completes the faculty for the spring quarter.

The Southern Union Singers are having a busy spring. They will sing for various school chapel programs, civic groups, and will participate in the annual Junior College Music Festival to be held at Marion Institute.

The Singers made their annual tour of Florida, have sung on two television programs, have given several radio programs, and sung in the churches of this area. If any other churches of the area would like for the singers to present a program, please contact the director, Mr. Beaman Griffin.

The Bisons completed a good season in basketball, having won third place in the Dixie Junior College Conference Tournament. Two men were placed on the all-tournament team—Clif-

EXTEND YOUR HORIZONS

READ YOUR

CHURCH MAGAZINES

## Report Congregational Christian Foundation

Without exception, the denominations express concern over the declining enrollment in our training programs for the parish ministry. Across our country there is a constant search for promising young people and encouragement offered in the form of scholarships. Enlightened self interest suggests churches participate in this effort, since all churches at some time may have to scan the horizon for a minister — when God calls and his servants answer, let it be said of us we helped make possible the preparation so essential in the work of God's Kingdom.

The Congregational Christian Foundation at Vanderbilt is your investment in the churches of the Southeast, and we seek your financial assistance for scholarship aid.

Respectfully submitted,  
Arnold Slater, Chairman

ford Crumley, Oxford, and Craig Helms of Andalusia. Baseball season has gotten underway and Coach Al Rochelle reports much desire and enthusiasm among the team aspirants. All home games are played on the Southern Union diamond and if you are in our area, we would welcome you to attend these games.

The last of the College Community Concert Series will be April 20th. Miss Ethel Donaldson and Richard Collins will be the guest artists. Miss Donaldson has won Metropolitan acclaim and Mr. Collins has appeared as soloist, nationwide. He was formerly with the music department at Auburn University and is presently on the staff at Florida State University.

The annual Board of Trustees meeting was held on April 2nd and 3rd, 1964.

The president was elected president of the Alabama Junior College Association at the annual meeting held recently in Birmingham. He succeeds Sister Mary Lourdes Michel of Sacred Heart College. Serving with Dr. Graham will be Dr. Rex A. Turner of Alabama Christian, and Miss Bessie Mae Young of Snead College.

We would welcome each of you to visit the college so that we can show you what we are doing and to thank you for your prayers and support.

Walter A. Graham  
President

## Committee On Stewardship And Missionary Education

Because of the illness of the committee's elected chairman, the Rev. A. Ray Meserve, the committee was a little slow in getting started this year. The committee has greatly missed the wise leadership of Mr. Meserve and has profited greatly in the past from his commitment and experience.

The Stewardship and Missionary Education Committee has been concerned with the same emphasis that it has always tried to convey to the people of the Southeast Convention. That is, to inform you as to the total mission of the church and the importance of your being involved in this total mission.

The committee is also aware of the fact that there has been a great deal of misunderstanding concerning the use of Our Christian World Mission funds due to the formation of the United Church of Christ and also because of the racial tension throughout the world. Therefore, the committee has attempted to provide information to each association committee as to how these funds are actually used. If you happen to be a little confused about this, please call upon your association committee of the convention committee for this information. This information will also be distributed at the annual meeting of the Southeast Convention to all delegates.

We have been very fortunate to have the regional secretary of the Stewardship Council of the United Church of Christ available to give us counsel and guidance concerning our program in the Southeast Convention. Rev. Carlton C. Johnson has already proved his great value to the work of the committee. He has the experience and ability to make the mission of the church come alive to each of us so that we will better understand just what is meant by the Mission of Christ's Church. We are very grateful to him for his assistance.

We look forward to the coming year as being one of the best for the Southeast Convention as we all serve the living God together through out support of Our Christian World Mission.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harold C. Henderson, Chm.

Subscribe

to

The United Church Herald

# Proposed Agreement For Formation Of United Church Conference

The Proposed Agreement for the Formation of a United Church Conference has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention and is submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Convention with the recommendation that it be adopted and the applications for membership by the various bodies involved be accepted.

## THE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, THE SOUTHEAST CONVENTION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia for the general purpose of promoting the interests and general welfare of the congregations and ministers of which it is composed, and

WHEREAS, THE ALABAMA-MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE, THE GEORGIA-SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE and THE TENNESSEE-KENTUCKY CONFERENCE are conferences of the CONVENTION OF THE SOUTH OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, INC., organized and existing for the general purpose of promoting the interests and general welfare of the congregations and ministers of which they are composed, and

WHEREAS, THE ALABAMA-TENNESSEE REGION OF EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCHES was organized and exists for the general purpose of promoting the interests and general welfare of the congregations and ministers of which it is composed, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has been formed pursuant to the Basis of Union with Interpretations and is a union of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church without break in their respective historic continuities, and

WHEREAS, the SOUTHEAST CONVENTION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, the ALABAMA-MISSISSIPPI, GEORGIA-SOUTH CAROLINA and TENNESSEE-KENTUCKY CONFERENCES of the CONVENTION OF THE SOUTH OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, and the ALABAMA-TENNESSEE REGION of the SOUTH INDIANA

SYNOD OF EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCHES have approved the aforesaid union, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ did on July 4, 1961, adopt a constitution describing the free and voluntary relationships which the local churches, associations, conferences and ministers sustain with the General Synod of the United Church of Christ and with each other and recommended such pattern of relationships and procedures to the local churches, associations, conferences and ministers to the end that they might more effectively accomplish their tasks, and

WHEREAS, under the aforesaid constitution it is contemplated that synods, conferences, and associations of the uniting communions shall reorganize,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the ALABAMA-MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, the GEORGIA-SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, the TENNESSEE-KENTUCKY CONFERENCE OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES and the ALABAMA-TENNESSEE REGION OF EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCHES do apply for membership as associations in the SOUTHEAST CONVENTION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, INC., and the SOUTHEAST CONVENTION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, INC., does agree to receive them upon the following terms and conditions:

CONDITION 1. This action is taken for the express purpose of forming the SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST in accordance with the constitution of the United Church of Christ.

CONDITION 2. The Southeast Convention of Congregational Christian Churches agrees to amend its charter to become the SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE of the UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST as soon as possible after the effective date of this agreement.

CONDITION 3. Each of the new associations shall be represented on the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention of Congregational Christian Churches, Inc. by its moderator and

one (1) representative-at-large until such time as other provision is made for the composition of the Board of Directors of the Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ.

CONDITION 4. At the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention following the effective date of this agreement a committee representative of the parties to this agreement shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to prepare amendments to the present constitution and by-laws of the Southeast Convention of Congregational Christian Churches, Inc., to be submitted to the next annual meeting of the Southeast Convention.

CONDITION 5. Nothing in the Constitution or By-Laws of this Conference shall destroy or limit the right of each local church to continue to operate in the way customary to it; nor shall be construed as giving to the Conference now or at any future time the power to abridge or impair the autonomy of any local church in the management of its own affairs.

CONDITION 6. The effective date of this agreement shall be January 1, 1965.

This agreement is the work of the committee composed of representatives of the Southeast Convention, the Convention of the South and the Evangelical and Reformed Churches of the Alabama-Tennessee Region. Members of the committee are:

### Alabama-Tennessee Region:

Rev. George Hewson, Birmingham  
Rev. Eugene Bickel, (Nashville)  
Mr. Herman Liechty, Belvidere  
Mr. Hubert Richter, Cullman

### Convention of the South:

Rev. John T. Enwright, Charleston  
Rev. Harold D. Long, Birmingham  
Rev. Homer C. McEwen, Atlanta  
Rev. John C. Mickle, Memphis

### Southeast Convention:

Rev. Carolyn P. Welch, Evarts, Ky.  
Rev. Raymond Berry, Huntsville  
Rev. Warren Blankenhorn, Phenix City  
Rev. Clyde C. Flannery, Nashville  
Rev. J. Kermit Harris, Columbus  
Mr. W. Pressley Ingram, Birmingham

Mr. Odell Yancey, Langdale  
Conference Executives:  
President Harry W. Bredeweg  
Supt. J. Taylor Stanley  
Supt. J. H. Lightbourne, Jr.

# THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

Second-class Postage Paid at  
Atlanta, Georgia

Published monthly by and for  
the churches of the

**SOUTHEAST CONVENTION**  
of Congregational Christian Churches  
(The United Church of Christ)  
673 Piedmont Avenue N. E.

Atlanta, Ga. TRinity 4-2558  
Single Subscription \$1.50 per year  
Group Subscription \$1.00 per year

## STAFF

Rev. Jas. H. Lightbourne, Jr. Editor  
Mrs. Jettie Logan Promotion  
Vol. VII April 1964 No. 6

## Superintendent's Report

For the year 1963 the Southeast Convention reported a total of 105 churches to our national offices. This figure includes 3 inactive churches. 8 churches were dropped from membership during the past year. Of these, 7 had been relatively inactive in association and convention affairs for the past several years. One, however, was one of our active churches.

71 churches have voted to be a part of the United Church. 20 have not taken action either way. 14 have voted not to be a part of the United Church.

The total membership of the convention now stands at 8554. This represents a net loss in membership for the year of 555, of which 372 were in the dropped churches.

The churches reported total current home expenses of \$372,947 and capital payments of \$163,689 — a total of \$536,636. This is an increase of about \$45,000 over the previous year.

The record is not as bright in the area of benevolences. Our Christian World Mission contributions came to \$32,093 and total benevolences to \$41,935. This is a decrease in OCWM of \$1,372 and a decrease in total benevolences of \$3,191.

We still have not reached the minimum goal of 10 per cent of current home expenses for Our Christian World Mission.

The total value of church property is reported as \$4,000,000.

It is quite evident we must be concerned about the evangelistic index of our churches. We are not securing new members at a sufficient rate to offset our losses. We must also be concerned about starting new churches.

Finally, we must be concerned about our stewardship. We must be about our mission.

## Southeast Convention Financial Statement

January 1 - December 31, 1963

### RECEIPTS

Budgeted Receipts		
Board for Homeland Ministries Subsidy	\$ 6,703.80	
Miscellaneous	2,851.62	9,555.42
Our Christian World Mission Receipts		
Central Alabama Association	952.37	
East Alabama Association	7,561.10	
North Alabama Association	2,719.85	
S. Alabama - N. W. Florida Association	813.04	
Georgia - South Carolina Conference	9,640.87	
Kentucky - Tennessee Conference	8,205.29	
Other	1,419.30	31,311.82
Total Budgeted Receipts		40,867.24

### Unbudgeted Receipts

Board for Homeland Ministries		
(Church Aid, Etc.)	10,600.00	
For Christian Higher Education Fund	2,741.08	
For Southern Union College	1,599.86	
Miscellaneous	5,344.54	
Total Unbudgeted Receipts		20,285.48

### TOTAL RECEIPTS

61,152.72

### DISBURSEMENTS

#### Budgeted Disbursements

Salaries and Annuities		
Office (Rent, Equipment, etc.)	1,172.60	
Supplies and Materials	6,000.76	
The Southeast News	1,363.24	
Organization (Board, Committees, etc.)	1,509.52	
Travel (Supt., Min. Chr. Ed., Special)	5,826.00	
Parsonage (Note, Ins., Maintenance)	7,943.37	
Miscellaneous	45,948.43	
Church Aid		
National Boards and Agencies		
Total Budgeted Disbursements		

#### Unbudgeted Disbursements

To Churches, etc., from Board of Homeland		
Ministries	10,200.00	
Christian Higher Fund (Nat'l.)	2,741.08	
Southern Union College	1,599.86	
Miscellaneous	4,685.35	
Total Unbudgeted Disbursements		19,226.29

### TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

65,174.72

### RECAPITULATION

Total Receipts 1963	61,152.72
Total Disbursements 1963	65,174.72
Deficit	— 4,022.00
Beginning Balance 1963	
Restricted	2,027.04
Regular	5,489.23
Total	7,516.27
Balance December 31, 1963	
Restricted	2,928.27
Regular	1,327.85
Total	4,256.12

Respectfully submitted,  
W. J. Strickland, Treasurer



RUFUS G. OBERCHT

## The Report From The Churchmen's Fellowship

The activities within the Churchmen's Fellowship this past year have been different. To begin with, the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention created the Committee on Lay Life and Work, which was requested a year ago by the Women's Fellowship and the Churchmen's Fellowship. We have spent most of our time in learning to make our cooperation work.

We held our Churchmen's Fellowship retreat last June 8th and 9th. Although our attendance was low, the program was tops and those who did not attend were the losers.

Laymen's Sunday was observed in a great number of churches, with laymen taking charge or playing a leading role in the service that day. It is hoped that this movement will be pushed and expanded further throughout our churches.

We cooperated in making plans for the Southern Regional Workshop early in December. This Regional Workshop held in Atlanta on February 21, 22, and 23, and which was led by Mrs. Emily Lester, Southern Regional Secretary, had representatives from all the southern states from Virginia to Texas. This Lay Life and Work meeting represented the leadership of the Lay Life and Work throughout this area. The new "program opportunities" material for use in the 1964-1965 year was presented at this time. While the same emphasis is being used again this

## Mrs. F. C. Lester Banquet Speaker

Mrs. F. C. (Emily) Lester of High Point, N. C., Southern Regional Secretary for the Council for Lay Life and Work of the United Church of Christ, will be the speaker at the annual banquet Saturday night in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Southeast Convention.

Before assuming her present position on January 1, 1963, Mrs. Lester was on the national staff of the Congregational Christian Women's Fellowship.

A native of Winter Park, Fla., and a graduate of the University of Florida, Mrs. Lester has been active in the work of the Congregational Christian Churches and the United Church in the Southern Region for many years.

She has served as president of the North Carolina Congregational Christian Women's Fellowship and the Women's Fellowship of the Southern Convention of Congregational Christian Churches.

Mrs. Lester is married to Dr. F. C. Lester, who is editor of The Christian Sun, weekly publication of the Southern Convention.

---

year, the material is much improved and arranged in a more logical order within the binder.

This year we are cooperating with the Women's Fellowship in staging a Lay Life and Work workshop on May 15th and 16th, just three weeks from now. We hope that the lay leaders, both men and women, in each conference or association will attend this workshop. It will be a wonderful opportunity to learn about the "Program Opportunities" material and how to use it in the local situation. This material has been prepared strictly for use by the various organizations or units within the local church, and they are ideal for use in this situation.

This workshop on May 15th-16th will be under the leadership of Mrs. Lester, the Southern Regional Secretary. Plan to be there. Details have been sent to each conference or association.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rufus G. Obrecht, President

---

**EXTEND YOUR HORIZONS**  
**READ YOUR**  
**CHURCH MAGAZINES**

## The Report Of The Women's Fellowship

Upon the resignation of Mrs. Noel Allen, who had been elected president at the Southeast Convention Women's Fellowship annual meeting, the Executive Board voted to ask me, as the president-elect, to become acting president. Because I already had major responsibilities with the Atlanta Y. W. C. A. it was understood that I would attempt only to attend official meetings where women should be represented.

The Executive Committee of the Women's Fellowship recommended that the major effort this year would be given over to the task of planning and participating in leadership training workshops.

The first of these was planned for February 21-23, 1964, for lay leaders of the entire southern area and held at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. Those invited were men and women presidents of convention and state-level organizations.

The second workshop is being planned for May 15-16, 1964, at I. T. C., where key leaders (both men and women) from the association or district level of the Southeast Convention, the Southern Synod (Evangelical and Reformed) and the Convention of the South are being asked to attend.

Another activity involving lay men and women was the Southern Regional Meeting of the Stewardship Council held in Atlanta February 24, 25, 26, 1964, for the leaders of the southern area. I acted as one of the section convenors.

This has been a profitable year in the training of leaders in our Southeast Convention, and we look toward greater participation of men and women in the Lay Life and Work of the United Church of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Askren (Mrs. Ed L.)  
Acting President, SEC  
Women's Fellowship

---

## Extend Your Horizons

Now is the time to extend your horizons by subscribing to THE SOUTHEAST NEWS and THE UNITED CHURCH HERALD.

During the sessions of this annual meeting the subscription rate is \$1 for THE SOUTHEAST NEWS and \$2 for THE UNITED CHURCH HERALD — a total of \$3 per year for both!

# Twelfth Annual Meeting

## Southeast Convention Of Congregational Christian Churches, Inc.

(An Acting Conference of the United Church of Christ)

### Pilgrim Congregational Church

Chattanooga, Tennessee

April 25-26, 1964

**THEME: "THE CHURCH — A WITNESS TO THE WORLD"**

#### PROGRAM

10:30 A. M. Call to Order: Mr. W. Pressley Ingram, Moderator

The Morning Devotions: Rev. Albert Henry, Pastor, Pilgrim Congregational Church, Birmingham, Alabama

Welcome:

Response: Mr. W. Pressley Ingram, Moderator

Recognition of Fraternal Delegates and Visitors

Presentation of the Minutes of the 1963 Annual Meeting: Mrs. A. D. Harry, Recording Secretary

Presentation of the Financial Statement: Mr. W. J. Strickland, Treasurer

The Appointment of Committees:

Business Committee

Place Committee

Resolutions Committee

The Report of the Moderator: Mr. W. Pressley Ingram

The Report of the Nominating Committee:

Rev. W. Raymond Berry, Chairman

The Report of the Christian Education Committee:

Rev. Warren A. Blankenhorn, Chairman

The Report of the Committee on Church and Ministry:

Rev. W. Raymond Berry, Chairman

The Report of the Committee on Evangelism:

Rev. L. Floyd Carmack, Chairman

Report from the Executive Council of the United Church:

Mr. Milton Van Manen, New Orleans, Louisiana

Recess for lunch

INTERMISSION REQUESTED

12:00

12:30

AFTERNOON

- 1:30 P. M. Call to Order: Mr. W. Pressley Ingram, Moderator  
The afternoon Devotions: Rev. Albert Henry
- 1:45 The Report of the Committee on Christian Social Action:  
Rev. Clyde C. Flannery, Chairman  
ADDRESS: "What in the World Is God Doing?":  
Dr. Ray Gibbons, Director, United Church Council for Christian  
Social Action
- 2:45 Hymn  
The Report of the Superintendent: Rev. James H. Lightbourne, Jr.  
The Presentation of the Proposed Agreement for the Formation of a  
United Church Conference: Rev. W. Raymond Berry
- 3:45 The Southern Union College: Dr. Walter A. Graham, President
- 4:10 The Report of the Committee on Stewardship and Missionary Education: Rev. Harold C. Henderson, Chairman
- 4:30 The Report of the Committee on Survey and Church Aid: Rev. Arnold Slater, Chairman
- 5:00 Recess
- 7:00 Banquet: Read House Hotel  
Speaker: Mrs. F. C. Lester, Southern Regional Secretary,  
Council for Lay Life and Work  
(Separate meetings of the Women's Fellowship and the Churchmen's  
Fellowship will follow the banquet)

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

- 9:00 A. M. Call to Order: Mr. W. Pressley Ingram, Moderator  
Invocation: Rev. Albert Henry  
The Report of the Women's Fellowship: Mrs. Edward L. Askren, Jr.,  
President  
The Report of the Churchmen's Fellowship: Mr. Rufus G. Obrecht,  
President
- 9:30 The Congregational Christian Foundation: Rev. Arnold Slater, Chairman  
Report from the Committee on Racial Justice Now:  
Rev. Arnold Slater
- 9:50 The Election of Officers  
Other Business  
Report of the Place Committee  
Report of the Resolutions Committee  
Memorial Silence and Prayer
- 10:15 Adjournment
- 10:15 THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CHURCH BUILDERS CLUB:  
Mr. Fred D. Powell, President
- 10:45 Adjournment of The Church Builders Club
- 11:00 Service of Worship: Conducted by Rev. Arnold Slater  
Sermon: Dr. Ray Gibbons  
Communion Service and Installation of Officers



DR. RAY GIBBONS

## CCSA Director Gibbons Annual Meeting Speaker

Rev. Dr. Ray Gibbons of New York City is director of the Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ.

The Council for Christian Social Action endeavors, through research, education, and action, to make the Christian gospel more effective in society. It promotes programs in economic affairs, race relations, international understanding and Christian citizenship, and conducts educational institutes throughout the country.

Over the years Dr. Gibbons has led study seminars in Russia, western Europe, the Near East, and Southeast Asia to visit parliaments, industries, housing projects, schools and churches and to confer with civic and religious leaders.

Dr. Gibbons is a member of the general board of the National Council of the Churches of Christ, U. S. A., of the executive committee of the Council's Department of Life and Work, its Department of Religious Liberty, and its Department of Church and Economic Life. He is chairman of the Council's Commission on Civic and Political Life and its Conference Committee on Church and State.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he was graduated in 1924 from Oberlin College, Ohio. In 1928 he received a Master's Degree from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary. He was awarded a Doctor of Divinity degree

## Mr. Milton H. Van Manen On Executive Council

Mr. Milton H. Van Manen of New Orleans, Louisiana, is the representative of the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ to the annual meeting of the Southeast Convention.

The Executive Council of the United Church is composed of 21 ministers and lay men and women. The Council conducts the business of the denomination in the interim between the meetings of the General Synod.

Mr. Van Manen is a life-long member of the Salem United Church of Christ in New Orleans. He was three times moderator of the Texas Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and for six years was a member of the Commission on Evangelism of the Evangelical Reformed Church. He has also been a delegate to the General Synod on several occasions.

Mr. Van Manen recently was elected president of the Greater New Orleans Federation of Churches, which is an indication of his strong ecumenical interests as well as of his recognized abilities.

He has been with the New Orleans Public Service, Inc., for 47 years. He started his career in 1916 as a street car conductor. After 27 years in various positions in the transit department he became employment manager in the personnel department. He is now personnel manager.

When Mr. Van Manen retires this year he has in mind giving himself "full time to Christian work on a lay level."

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE UNITED CHURCH HERALD

by Defiance College, Ohio, in 1948.

Dr. Gibbons was minister of churches in Westbrook, Maine, and Northampton, Massachusetts, before becoming director of the Council of Social Action of the Congregational Christian Churches in 1944.

He is married to the former Marjorie Lies of Rover Forest, Illinois. They have three children, the Rev. David A. Gibbons, the Rev. Paul Gibbons, and Miss Jane Gibbons. All are in church work.

Dr. Gibbons will be remembered by many delegates to the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Convention held in Lanett in 1958. Dr. Gibbons was the keynote speaker.



## Rev. Arnold Slater Is Convention Host Pastor

The Reverend Arnold Slater is the host pastor for the 12th annual sessions of the Southeast Convention.

During this year Rev. and Mrs. Slater will mark the 20th anniversary of their coming to Pilgrim Church as minister and wife.

After graduating from the Vanderbilt Divinity School, Mr. Slater served Congregational Christian Churches in Albemarle, North Carolina, and Holland, Virginia, before accepting the call to become pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church in 1944.

At the General Synod of the United Church in 1963 Mr. Slater was elected a member of the Executive Council of the denomination. This is the body that carries on the business of the denomination in the period between the meetings of the General Synod.

Because of his experience and his stature in the denomination, he was also requested to serve on the Committee for Racial Justice Now. Mr. Slater is particularly well qualified to interpret the problems and opportunities in the south.

Mr. Slater was one of the leaders in the formation of the Southeast Convention. He has served the convention as moderator. Presently he is a member of the board of directors and chairman of the Committee on Survey and Church Aid. He is also chairman of the Congregational Christian Foundation at Vanderbilt University.

Mrs. Slater was the first woman to serve as the moderator of the Southeast Convention.

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

## Report From The Southeast PF - YF

Approximately 200 young people, adult advisers, and ministers attended the annual meeting of the Southeast Convention PF/YF held on Saturday and Sunday, March 14-15, at Central Congregational Church, Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Beth Burnham of United Church, LaGrange, Ga., president of the organization, presided over the sessions.

Dr. Henry Tani, Youth Ministry Chairman for the Christian Education Division of the Board for Homeland Ministries of the United Church, delivered the keynote address and engaged the young people in lively discussion at the Saturday morning session.

During the afternoon business period the young people voted to invite fraternal delegates from the Convention of the South (Negro Congregational Christian young people) to the next annual meeting of the PF/YF in 1965.

Saturday night a festive banquet and social period were held for the young people.

The Sunday morning worship service was conducted by Rev. Frederick A. Meyer, host pastor. He installed the following new officers:

President — Jimmy Lightbourne, Atlanta

Vice-President — Lee Harris, Columbus

Corresponding Secretary — Doreen Hoffman, Nashville

Recording Secretary — Tina Bender, Atlanta

Treasurer — Mike Culpepper, Tallahassee

Action Commission Chairman — Carolyn Feazel, Birmingham

Faith Commission Chairman — Penny Edge, Lanett

Fellowship Commission Chairman — Jeff Carstens, Atlanta.

## SEC Summer Camps

### Kentucky - Tennessee

Senior High — June 7-13

Junior High — July 26-August 1

For information write to: Rev. Annie R. Campbell, Robbins, Tenn.

### Ga., Ala., S. C. & Fla.

Junior High — July 26 - August 1, Roosevelt State Park, Georgia

Senior High — July 26 - August 1,

## Report Of Committee Ministry And Churches

While statistics do not make for the most stimulating reading, there are facts concerning the status of the ministry in the Southeast Convention that should be of interest to each of us.

101 ordained ministers with full standing in our national fellowship have their membership in the associations and conferences of the convention.

There are 7 ministers with Conference Ordination, which grants them all the rights and privileges of an ordained minister within the boundaries of the convention.

15 ministers are licensed by their respective associations and conferences. 1 ministerial student is In Care of Association.

7 ministers of other denominations or laymen serve churches within the convention.

Of the 108 ordained ministers, 63 are pastors of local churches, 8 are actively engaged in religious work, such as chaplains, missionaries, denominational staff, etc., 19 are retired, 6 are involved in the teaching profession and education work, and 12 are in business and other professions.

During the past year our senior minister, Rev. James H. Hughes, died. The following ministers transferred out of the convention: Rev. William J. Busick, Rev. Harold W. Freer, Rev. Carl J. Landes, Rev. Jimmy J. Norred, Rev. Emily F. Pitcock, Rev. John D. Schofield, Rev. William H. Shelton, Rev. James W. Walters, and Rev. John C. Wiley.

Rev. William J. Busick, Rev. Bill J. Robinson, and Rev. Bill J. Traylor received full ordination. Rev. William M. Fulmer, Rev. Andrew Nelson, and Rev. George Graham Norris were changed from Conference Ordination to Full Ordination.

Rev. Joseph H. Brown, Rev. Euleus G. Clark, Rev. Ira J. Robinson, Rev. H. Yancey Sears, and Rev. William R. Winterbottom received Conference Ordination.

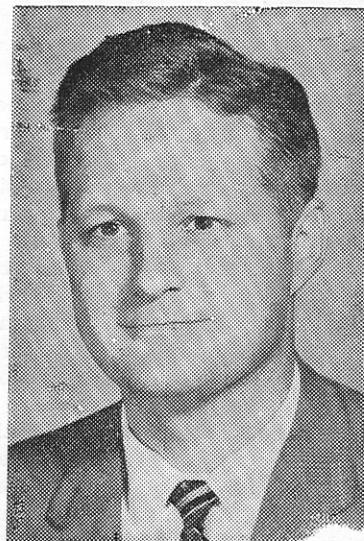
The following ministers have come to the Southeast Convention:

Ordained: Rev. Charles W. Bell, to

### Roosevelt State Park, Georgia

For information write to: Rev. George W. Stowe, 2114 64th Blvd., Langdale, Alabama

Information also available from Southeast Convention Office.



REV ALBERT HENRY

Lowell Church, Roanoke, Ala.; Rev. W. Walter Hall, Lanett, Ala.; Rev. Albert Henry, Birmingham, Ala.; Rev. Karlton C. Johnson, Regional Secretary, Stewardship Council, Atlanta; Rev. Nelson A. Kittle, Goodwill Industries, Columbus, Ga.; Rev. R. Hugh Lasseter, Center Church, Atlanta;

Rev. C. H. Stewart, Dorcas Church, Crestview, Fla.; Rev. Bill J. Traylor, East Tallassee, Ala.; Rev. Constance J. (Mrs. David E.) Vandenburg and Rev. David E. Vandenburg, Norris Religious Fellowship, Norris Dam, Tenn.; Rev. William R. Winterbottom, Crossville, Tenn.

Others: Mr. Robert C. Lentz, Antioch, Andalusia; Prof. Kenneth R. Whittemore, Soddy, Tenn.; Mr. Blake Williams, Huguley, Alabama.

The 1963 United Church Minister's Convocation was held at the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Ga., December 2-4. Rev. Edward A. Powers, General Secretary of the Division of Christian Education of the Board of Homeland Ministries, was the guest leader.

The 1964 United Church Minister's Conference is scheduled to be held November 30 - December 2 at the Interdenominational Theological Center. Dr. Harold H. Wilke, director of the United Church Council on Church and Ministry, will be the guest leader.

The churches of the convention are to provide the time and expenses for their pastors to attend the minister's conferences and the other opportunities for the minister to study during the summer months.

Respectfully submitted,  
W. Raymond Berry, Chairman

## Report Of Committee Survey And Church Aid

Those who attend the national meetings of the United Church of Christ find themselves excited by the evident growth and unity expressed in the significant increase in membership and budget.

It is evident that if we are to keep pace in the Southeast Convention with the growth of our national denomination we must become vitally concerned about starting new congregations in areas of population growth.

Perhaps that is why we take satisfaction and some pride in the apparent spiritual growth of our relatively new churches in Huntsville, Ala., and Montgomery, Ala., served respectively by the Rev. W. Raymond Berry and the Rev. Harold C. Henderson. Those attending the convention may expect to hear a first hand report from these churches.

We have other churches and ministers whose continued ministry is made possible by financial aid by the convention. Not to be forgotten is the financial support that comes to our area from the Board for Homeland Ministries. We, therefore, express our thanks for the interest and investment made by them in our behalf.

The following is the schedule of aid voted for 1964:

NATIONAL PROJECTS		BHM
Robbins Parish		4,000.
North Alabama, Pastor-at-Large		900.
JOINT PROJECTS		SEC BHM
Charleston, Circular	250.	750.
Huntsville, United	900.	4,000.
Montgomery, United	1,500.	5,500.
Nashville, Brookmeade	1,120.	1,050.
Pleasant Hill	500.	500.
CONVENTION PROJECTS		
Caddo, First	360.	
Shawmut, Todd	360.	
Brantley, Indian Cr.	100.	
Brantley, Liberty	100.	
Hackleburg, Fairview	60.	
Haleyville, Union Grove	150.	
Pisgah	150.	
Phenix City, Russell Woods	400.	
Knoxville, First	500.	
Columbus, First	600.	
TRAVEL AID		
Rev. Homer Barnes	36.	
Rev. R. M. Waugh	100.	
UNDESIGNATED		314.
TOTAL	7,500.	16,700.

Prepared for the Committee.

Arnold Slater, Chairman

## Report Of Committee Christian Education

The Christian Education Committee was divided into three sub-committees at the beginning of this convention year — Leadership Training, Mrs. W. Raymond Berry, chairman; Youth Ministry, Mrs. J. Kermit Harris, chairman; Summer Camp, Rev. Warner D. Noles, chairman. With each sub-committee specializing in its respective field much broader horizons were possible.

Under Mrs. Berry's leadership the Christian Education Associates (CEA) visited many of the churches in the Southeast Convention, offering invaluable assistance in introducing, familiarizing and interpreting the new United Church Curriculum.

Mrs. Harris' committee on the Youth Ministry served in advisory capacity for the youth of our convention by opening new avenues of religious thinking. The youth met in planning sessions, workshops, and their annual convention, taking steps forward in the best Christian tradition.

Rev. Warner Noles is serving his third term as chairman of the Camp Committee and plans are well under way for a successful camping program. Camp leadership sessions have been held and correspondence with prospective campers and churches is in progress. The youth of our convention are being urged to attend for a week of inspirational fellowship and fun.

The Christian Education Committee held its regular meetings in August and January. During the January meeting a time was set aside to meet with the Convention of the South's Committee and plans are well under way for a successful camping program. Camp leadership sessions have been held and correspondence with prospective campers and churches is in progress. The youth of our convention are being urged to attend for a week of inspirational fellowship and fun.

The Chrsitian Education Committee held its regular meetings in August and January. During the January meeting a time was set aside to meet with the Convention of the South's Christian Education Committee and ideas of the two committees were shared.

Respectfully submitted,  
W. A. Blankenhorn, Chm.  
Christian Education Com.

## Report Of Committee Christian Social Action

Christian Social Action has been the concern of the entire leadership of the convention during the past year as plans were formulated for the formation of a United Church Conference in the southeast. The bi-racial nature of the area was the number one problem as the realignment committee worked on its recommendations to the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention. Other committees, of course, have been concerned with this problem as they projected plans for the future.

The Southeast Convention and Convention of the South conferences in Kentucky and Tennessee have met jointly for the past two years, and cooperated in the camping program during 1963. The young people of the two conferences voted at their joint meeting last fall to elect only one set of officers for 1963-64.

One church in the convention took a delegation to call on one of the U. S. senators from the state, to urge his support of the Civil Rights Bill before the Senate.

The chairman of the convention's Committee on Christian Social Action attended the Witness in Washington March 23-25, 1964, to call on the senators in the nation's capitol on behalf of the Civil Rights Bill.

Many things have been left undone in the convention area, but it is hoped that when we are all one (as Jesus so earnestly prayed) we might set our hands to the many unfinished tasks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Clyde C. Flannery, Chairman

### ! NOTICE !

All of our churches and ministers are urged to contact servicemen from their churches serving in Europe to inform them of the following meeting.

There will be a Retreat for Servicemen at Berchtesgaden, Germany, July 13-17, 1964. It is for all servicemen and their families as well as for the chaplains of our denomination.

Dr. Ben M. Herbster, president of the United Church, and Dr. Gerald Jud, secretary for Evangelism, will be among the leaders.

Please write your service families!!

## Report Of The Moderator To The Annual Meeting

The year 1963 was a most eventful year in the life of the United Church of Christ. The delegates to the General Synod, which met in Denver, Colorado, last July, took some rather bold steps in an effort to make the United Church relevant to the problems of our times. We may agree or disagree with the methods and procedures recommended, but as members of the United Church we are guaranteed that inherent right.

Now we come face to face with the problem of making our convention an integral part of the United Church by taking action at the annual meeting in Chattanooga which will bring into being one Conference of the United Church, which will be composed of ALL our U. C. C. churches in the area. The Board of Directors voted in January of this year to recommend approval of the plan which has been presented by the Committee on Reorganization and Realignment. The provisions of the plan have been published in The Southeast News and copies have been sent to all ministers and churches of the convention. There will be ample opportunity for discussion on the floor of this proposal.

A paragraph from the 1963 report of Moderator J. Kermit Harris seems to be very appropriate at this time, and with apologies to him I would like to repeat it in my report. I quote:

"The Christian concept of a United Church of Christ moves toward reality. It has been nothing less than thrilling to have joined with your representatives in the pursuit of this reality. True, there is yet much to be said and done; however, we should be encouraged and reassured by the fact that what has been done and said has been done and said in the spirit of Christ. Ours is a great heritage; it remains so only as long as we are Christian."

Thus we come to the time when we must complete some of our church work so that we may be about the work of the church.

As your moderator, I attended the Convention of the South (Negro) as a fraternal delegate last June at its meeting in Atlanta. In July I was a delegate to the General Synod meeting in Denver. Along with the other delegates from the convention I opposed the imposition of certain restrict-

ions upon the use of funds of the denomination, specifically where a church has not declared its membership open to all people.

The Soddy, Tennessee, church observed its 100th anniversary in August, 1963, and along with our Superintendent, I represented the convention on this historical occasion.

I also attended a special service at the Wadley, Alabama, Congregational Christian Church, which was held last Fall in observance of the completion of 40 years of service to the church and community of Southern Union College.

There were many other events and occasions which time and circumstances did not permit me to attend. To that extent, at least, I failed in my duties as your moderator. I do want to say, however, that in spite of our trying problems, it has been a real pleasure to work with our superintendent and your elected representatives during this most eventful year. We have fallen short of our goals in Our Christian World Mission giving and in much of our other efforts, but let us go forth with courage in the knowledge and faith that "He bestows upon us His Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the Church of Jesus Christ."

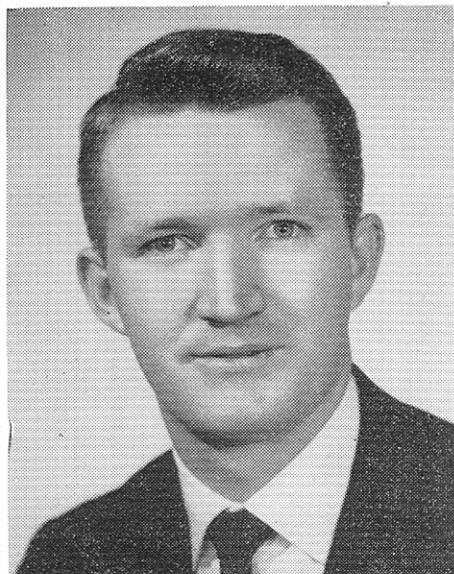
Respectfully submitted,  
W. Pressley Ingram,  
Moderator

## Church Builder's Club Financial Statement

There has been very little activity in connection with the Church Builders Club during 1963-64.

Balance on hand 4-26-63	\$754.88
Receipts: 1963-64:	
Andalusia, Antioch	\$5.00
Atlanta, Central	25.00
Chattanooga, Pilgrim	5.00
Huntsville, United	105.00
LaGrange, United	5.00
Montgomery, United	5.00
Richland, First	5.00
Robbins, Barton Church	10.00
Wedowee, Noon Day	5.00
	170.00
	924.88
Interest on invested funds	34.32
Balance on hand 3-30-64	\$959.20

W. Pressley Ingram,  
Treasurer



FRED D. POWELL, President

## Report From The Church Builder's Club

It has truly been a pleasure and honor to serve the past two years as president of the Church Builder's Club. As you know, the Russell Woods Church at Phenix City, Alabama, has been the project for the past two years. I feel the funds that were granted to the Russell Woods Church were very much needed and appreciated by the people of the church.

However, in closing out my tenure as president, I feel that at the annual meeting we should close out the project and commence a new one, Huntsville or Montgomery. Inasmuch as the Huntsville project was first I feel it should be the next project.

I further recommend that the by-laws of the club be amended to limit the club to one project a year, but also to increase the membership to \$10 per project. This would leave the membership with the same possible maximum cost per year.

I further urge cooperation from all the churches in striving for a minimum goal of at least 10% of the membership of each church as members of the Church Builder's Club.

Respectfully submitted,  
Freddie Powell  
President

SUBSCRIBE TO

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS  
673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E.  
Atlanta 8, Georgia

Second Class Postage Paid  
at Atlanta, Georgia



MR. INGRAM



MRS. HARRY

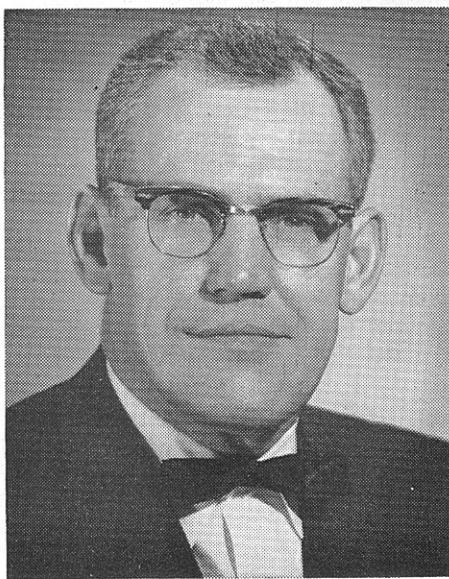
### Southeast Convention Officers

W. PRESSLEY INGRAM  
Moderator

REV. CLYDE C. FLANNERY  
Moderator-Elect

MRS. A. D. HARRY  
Secretary

W. J. STRICKLAND  
Treasurer



MR. FLANNERY



MR. STRICKLAND